

Pen-G®

Benzylpenicillin

Description

Benzylpenicillin (**Pen-G®**) is a beta-lactam antibiotic and active against gram-positive and gram-negative cocci, actinomyces and spirochaetes. One lac unit is equivalent to 60 mg of pure benzylpenicillin.

Mode of action

Benzylpenicillin (**Pen-G®**) inhibits the bacterial cell wall synthesis by blocking the enzyme transpeptidase, which is responsible for cross-linking of the cell wall. The bacterial cell swells up and is ruptured.

Composition

Pen-G® 10 lac Injection: Each vial contains Benzylpenicillin BP 600 mg (equivalent to 10 lac unit).

Indications

Throat infections like tonsillitis and pharyngitis, otitis media, bacterial endocarditis, streptococcal infections, pneumococcal pneumonia, bacterial meningitis, syphilis, etc.

Dosage & administration

Common adult dose is 10 lac units (600 mg) IM or IV for every six hours. For severe infection (e.g. bacterial meningitis), a higher dose may be needed like 30 lac units 3 hourly. For infants and children, 10-20 mg/kg body weight daily in 3-4 divided doses is recommended and in case of severity upto 100 mg/kg daily in 4 divided doses may be given. For neonates, 30 mg/kg daily in 4 divided doses is recommended.

Contraindications

It is contraindicated in case of hypersensitivity to penicillin.

Side effects

Pain and swelling at the injection site, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, paresthesia with prolonged use, colitis.

Use in pregnancy & lactation

Benzylpenicillin is safe for use in pregnancy. The drug can be given in lactating period, but the possibility of sensitization of the infant should be borne in mind.

Precautions

The history of penicillin sensitivity should be borne in mind. The skin sensitivity must be done before administration.

Overdosage

Penicillins are of very low toxicity in overdose. Gastrointestinal symptoms, including nausea and vomiting may occasionally occur after oral overdoses.

Drug interactions

Probenecid prolongs the half-life of benzylpenicillin by competing with it for renal tubular secretion and may be used therapeutically for this purpose. Benzylpenicillin may also interact with bacteriostatic antibacterials such as chloramphenicol and tetracyclines, and may be incompatible in-vitro with other drugs, including a number of other antibacterials. The possibility of a prolonged bleeding time following oral treatment with a broad-spectrum drug like ampicillin should be borne in mind in patients receiving anticoagulants.

Storage

Store in a cool and dry place, protected from light.

Packaging

Pen-G® 10 lac Injection: Each carton contains 1x4 vials with water for injection in blister pack.



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